

Rain or snow tonight and Friday; fresh north to northeast winds.

# The Washington Times.

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AT HOME AND ABROAD.

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## FOURTEEN VICTIMS OF FIRE IN CHICAGO HOTEL

Ten of the Dead Identified  
Were Strangers in City  
on Visit to Live Stock  
Show.

Mother With Child Jumps  
From Window to Adjoin-  
ing Roof—Ten Injured,  
None Seriously.

Flames Did Not Reach the  
Rooms of Dead—Suffocat-  
ed Without Awakening to  
Consciousness.

CHICAGO, Dec. 4.—Fourteen bodies of persons who were suffocated in a fire at 5:55 o'clock this morning at the Lincoln Hotel in Madison Street await identification at the morgue and undertaking establishments. Nearly all of them are believed to be persons that were here to attend the live stock show.

Ten injured guests of the hotel are at the hospitals suffering from hurts received by jumping from windows of the burning building to the roofs of adjoining structures.

**List of Injured.**  
The injured are:  
R. C. Hamilton, a stock raiser from Lebanon, Ind.  
W. J. Thomas, a mail clerk, employed on the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway.  
A. S. Haines, Fairmont, Ind.  
J. D. Mayer, Burlington, Iowa.  
Mrs. J. Sheppard and her seven-year-old son Fred.  
William Hargraves, Davenport, Iowa.  
Edward Weber, clerk of the hotel, who was on duty at the time the fire started, and is being detained by the police pending an investigation.  
None of the persons injured is seriously hurt.

**Jumped From Window.**  
Mrs. Sheppard jumped from the third story of the hotel to the roof of a restaurant in an adjoining building, with her child Fred in her arms. She may have sustained internal injuries.

All those who met death were suffocated. The flames did not extend to their rooms, but clouds of smoke poured into the sleeping apartments, and those within them either died without awakening or were afterward suffocated before they could escape. Most of the bodies were found in bed, indicating that consciousness of the appalling situation never reached them.

When the bodies were removed to the sidewalk by firemen and policemen, they were examined for purposes of identification. The victims were strangers, however, and the hotel clerks could not recognize them.

The fire originated between the second and third floors from an unknown cause. The building was heated by steam and stoves. Electricity and gas were used for illumination. It is supposed a guest left a gas jet open and the escaping gas ignited.

**Patronized by Farmers.**  
The hotel was patronized by farmers and visitors from the country. Last night 129 guests were registered. The rooms were filled and coats were placed in extra rooms and hallways to furnish sleeping accommodations. The hotel occupies the second, third and fourth floors above Joseph Brown & Co.'s jewelry store.

When the guests were aroused by cries of fire they stampeded into the narrow hallways that afforded the only means of exit to the street. The procession was

### WEATHER CONDITIONS.

The storm of Tuesday and Wednesday has passed eastward beyond the field of observation, but it has been succeeded by two others of marked character, one a Gulf of Mexico storm, centered over southeastern Mississippi, and the other over the Canadian Northwest. Between the two there is a ridge of high pressure, accompanied by a cold wave, with snow as far south as central Texas.

Rain is again falling in the South, and snow or rain in the northern districts west of the Rocky Mountains. There were also light snows Wednesday in the Missouri and upper Mississippi valleys and the middle slope, and snow and rain from the lake region eastward.

There will be snow or rain, mostly snow, tonight and Friday from the Ohio Valley and lower lake region eastward, and rain tonight in the Southern States, followed by generally fair weather Friday.

On the middle Atlantic coast the winds will be fresh, possibly brisk from the Northeast, on the South Atlantic coast fresh, to brisk easterly, becoming westerly Friday over the southern portion; on the east Gulf coast brisk to high north-westerly, and on the lower lakes fresh to brisk northerly.

Steamers departing today for European ports will have fresh west to north winds and generally fair weather to the Grand Banks.

### THE SUN.

Sun sets today.....4:39 p. m.  
Sun rises tomorrow.....7:02 a. m.

### TIDE TABLE.

Low tide today.....5:03 p. m.  
High tide today.....10:58 p. m.  
Low tide tomorrow.....5:32 a. m.  
High tide tomorrow.....11:22 a. m.

blocked by struggling men who fought each other with desperation.

No headway was made by the flames and the panic-stricken crowd quieted down, leaving the building in scanty attire. Barefooted and half clad guests of the hotel were cared for at restaurants and stores until sufficient clothing could be obtained.

Attendance at the live stock show is larger this year than ever before, and accommodations at the hotels patronized by stock raisers has been taxed to the limit. In all other small hotels down town and in the stock yards district visitors are forced to crowd into rooms and sleep on cots in halls.

Coroner Traeger has ordered an investigation to learn if the building laws are complied with by the owners of these places.

The flames were confined to the second and third floors and the loss did not exceed \$4,000.

At 1 o'clock this afternoon the following dead have been identified:  
Daniel Vocum, Davenport, Iowa.  
I. C. Vocum, his son.  
W. Fleet.  
F. L. Ewing.  
W. S. Heliery.  
T. V. Slocum.  
H. K. Wood, Lebanon, Ind.  
R. J. Sullivan.  
E. Toner.  
George Morris.  
W. M. Fardy, Janesville, Wis.

This morning's horror in the Lincoln Hotel building was not the first of its kind. Several years ago, while the building was being utilized as a hotel, fire destroyed part of the two top floors and resulted in the death of seven persons.

## FORMER SPEAKER REED IN CRITICAL CONDITION

Symptoms of Bright's Disease Appear in Today's Diagnosis of Case of Distinguished Statesman.

The condition of ex-Speaker Thomas B. Reed, who was taken ill Tuesday, is regarded by his physicians as very critical, owing to the complication of ailments from which he is suffering. It is understood that for some time Mr. Reed has been afflicted with Bright's disease.

His doctors today admitted that a trouble in his kidneys has manifested itself that threatens to be more troublesome than the appendicitis. Mrs. Reed and her daughter are now at the Arlington, where Mr. Reed has apartments, in constant attendance upon him. The possibility of an operation has not been broached to the patient, because the physicians hope it may not be necessary.

Dr. T. L. MacDonald, consulting surgeon in the case, said after visiting Mr. Reed this morning:

"Mr. Reed's condition is critical—that

is, a change for the better or for the worse may occur at any time. The appendicitis is abating, but a kidney complaint has manifested itself. This is probably more dangerous than the appendicitis. He passed a fairly comfortable night and is resting easy this morning."

Mr. Reed does not realize the seriousness of his condition and is much opposed to remaining in bed, believing that he is well able to be up and about.

The hotel is besieged with anxious inquirers from various walks of life concerning the condition of the stricken statesman.

The following bulletin was issued by Mr. Reed's physicians this morning:

"Mr. Reed's temperature at 8 a. m. was 100; pulse, 84; respiration, 26. Symptoms of appendicitis abating. Some kidney complications threatening. J. L. MACDONALD, M. D.  
F. A. GARDNER, M. D.  
H. F. BISHOP, M. D."

## APPREHENSION OVER VENEZUELAN SITUATION

No Assurances of Non-Violation of Monroe Doctrine.

## GERMANY NON-COMMITTAL

Will Not Guarantee That Seizure of South American Territory Will Not Continue Indefinitely.

That both Germany and the State Department are perturbed by the approaching situation in Venezuela, despite repeated assurances that a thorough understanding exists between the two nations regarding the extent of Germany's coercion in efforts to collect her debts, is manifested by the daily calls of Herr von Holleben upon Secretary Hay, the length of their conferences and consultations with Senators upon the same subject.

Ever since the appearance in this city of Isaac N. Seligman of New York, coincident with the first actual move made by Germany and Great Britain toward sending an armed force to Venezuelan waters these gatherings and discussions have been frequent.

### Germany Non-Committal.

Although the State Department has informed Germany and Great Britain that a display of force or the seizure of Venezuelan customs houses would not be considered here as even a constructive violation of the Monroe Doctrine, still this Government is seeking an exact definition of the extent to which the joint action may proceed, and a guarantee that possession of Venezuelan soil will not continue beyond a stated period.

Ambassador von Holleben is not yet in a position to give these assurances, nor is it at all certain that his government will consent to be so circumscribed since knowledge of their existence would necessarily operate against collection from Castro. It is likely, however, that before the joint fleet takes any radical steps some understanding will be reached satisfactory to the United States.

**"CASTRO'S 'SWELLED HEAD' DUE TO CLEVELAND"**

LONDON, Dec. 4.—The "Globe" in an editorial today expresses the belief that President Castro of Venezuela will not hold out long against the demands of England and Germany. The paper says:

## SENATE ADJOURNS UNTIL NOON MONDAY

Routine Work Followed by Executive Session.

## MILITIA BILL REPORTED

Mr. Beveridge Presents Telegram of Protest Against the Omnibus Statehood Bill.

After a brief session in the course of which a large amount of routine business was considered, the Senate went into executive session at 12:30 o'clock today, and at its end adjourned until Monday next at noon.

On motion of Mr. Stewart (Rep., Nev.) a resolution was adopted calling for the report of the agent of the United States in the Pious Fund case recently decided at The Hague.

Mr. Proctor (Rep., Va.) from the Committee on Military Affairs, favorably reported the militia bill.

Mr. Beveridge (Rep., Ind.) presented a telegram from officers of the Oklahoma Non-Partisan Statehood Convention, transmitting resolutions urging the union of Oklahoma and Indian Territory as one State, and opposing the omnibus Statehood bill.

Mr. Platt (Rep., N. Y.) favorably reported the Morgan resolution providing for printing 1,500 copies of Attorney General Knox's compilation of trust debates, also McCoombs' resolution providing for printing 11,000 copies of compilations of decisions of Federal Courts in cases under the Sherman anti-trust law. Both resolutions were adopted.

## HOUSE NOT IN SESSION.

The House was not in session today, an adjournment having been taken yesterday until Friday. It is proposed to take up tomorrow what is known as the London dock bill from the Committee on Commerce. The adjournment was due to the absence from Washington of Representative Sherman, who is in charge of the measure.

## J. B. HENDERSON JR., GIVEN JUDGMENT IN MISSOURI

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 4.—John B. Henderson, of Washington, D. C., has been given a new judgment against St. Clair county, Mo., in the United States circuit court for \$551,923. The new judgment includes a renewal of an old one, with accrued interest added, which was for \$169,000. It was given against the county in 1875, and drew 10 per cent interest from that time up until now and will continue to draw 10 per cent interest until paid. The judgment unless renewed would run out in ten years, and so the holders of it have in court each seven years and have the original judgment renewed and the interest added to it.

This particular judgment was originally in favor of Gen. John B. Henderson, but he transferred it to his son, John B. Henderson, Jr.

## HEAD CLERK OF BANKING CONCERN A SUICIDE

Howard S. Goodwin Found  
Dead in His Office.

## BULLET HOLE IN HIS HEAD

No Apparent Motive for Deed—Body  
Discovered by Night Watch-  
man This Morning.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 4.—Howard S. Goodwin, young, wealthy and head clerk of the firm of Cassatt & Co., bankers and brokers, was found dead in the office of the company in the Arcade building. His body was discovered by a night watchman, at 1:29 this morning.

A bullet hole in his head and a revolver held in his stiffened right hand pointed to suicide. The police admit, however, that the case is a mysterious one, and a dozen detectives are now at work upon it.

**No Known Motive.**  
Goodwin was about thirty-two years old and lived at Ridley Park in a handsome country place. There was no apparent motive for the deed.

About 1 o'clock this morning Edward T. Woodward, the watchman employed by the Pennsylvania Railroad, in making his rounds, discovered a door unlocked leading into the office of the banking firm of Cassatt & Co. This firm occupies the entire second floor on the south side of the building.

The watchman entered the office and turned on the electric lights. He found the body of a man lying on a leather-covered couch. In one hand the dead man clutched a revolver, the other hung limply to the floor. A stream of blood was trickling down from a bullet hole in the left temple.

### The Police Summoned.

Without disturbing the body Woodward hastened to the street and summoned Patrolmen Davis and Casey, of the Twentieth and Race Streets station-house. Davis returned with Woodward to the office room, while Casey rang for the patrol wagon.

One glance by the patrol sergeant satisfied him that the man was dead. The body was cold and life probably had been extinct for several hours.

At the morgue the man's clothing was searched for evidence which would reveal his identity. Numerous papers, letters, and cards were found in his pockets, all of which bore the name of "Howard S. Goodwin."

A Pennsylvania Railroad annual pass bore the same name, as did a receipt for twenty shares of United Gas Improvement Company stock. A gold watch, a fob, and a pair of link cuff buttons each bore the initials "H. T. G." A roll of bank notes aggregating \$190 also was found in the dead man's pockets.

Among the papers found were several blank checks and receipted bills, each of which bore the heading "Cassatt & Co." Goodwin was treasurer of the Columbia Coal Mining Co., and for twenty-five years confidential clerk of Cassatt & Co.

He enjoyed perfect health, and his relations with his wife and child in their home at Ridley Park are described as ideal. There appears absolutely no reason why Mr. Goodwin should have taken his own life.

Mr. Thomas, manager of Cassatt & Co., confirms this view by stating that Mr. Goodwin's accounts with the firm are in perfect order. Coroner Dugan states that he can find nothing to explain the suicide.

A revolver found in Mr. Goodwin's right hand has led the police to advance the theory of suicide. The intimate friends of the dead man refuse to accept this view of the case and they state openly that they suspect foul play. They point out that it would be an easy task for a murderer wishing to avert suspicion to place the revolver in the hand of the victim.

J. O. Kerhaug, a brother-in-law of Mr. Goodwin, went early to the morgue today to identify Mr. Goodwin's body and arrange for its removal. He does not believe Goodwin is a suicide.

## STRONG RIVALRY FOR INDIANA JUDGESHIP

Two Delegations Call Upon the President to Press Claims of Their Candidates.

The vacant Indiana judgeship is likely to be filled by President Roosevelt in a day or two, according to present indications. A number of Indiana citizens called at the Executive offices today to press the claims of their respective candidates. The claims of A. B. Anderson, of Crawfordsville, Ind., who has been recommended by Representative Landis, were again presented by a delegation consisting of Finley T. Mount, James E. Stutzman, of Peru, and George P. Heywood, of Lafayette. They were introduced to the President by Representative Crumacker.

At the same time Representative Holliday of Indiana presented the name of Enoch T. Hogate, of Danville, Ind. Representative Overstreet has a candidate in the person of Ross Hawkins, and Representative Steele is urging Q. A. Myers, of Logansport.

The President gave no indication of his choice in the matter, but today's call to expect a settlement of the fight immediately.

## HUMANITY, NOT BUSINESS, CONTROLS OUTPUT OF COAL

### THE WASHINGTON COAL SITUATION IN A NUTSHELL

Total shortage on the year when strike ended.....24,000,000 tons  
Washington's shortage on the year when strike ended.....159,000 tons  
Present output of mines compared with normal.....84 per cent  
Time required to reach normal output.....3 months  
Average daily receipts of Reading coal past two weeks.....38 cars  
Daily shipments Reading coal promised.....50 cars  
Normal daily shipments of Reading coal to Washington.....75 cars

### PRESENT SOURCES OF SUPPLY.

Companies extending help—  
Reading Coal and Iron Company.  
Mines of the Erie Railroad.  
Pennsylvania Railroad mines.  
Independent operators.

Companies denying help—  
Mines of Lehigh Valley Railroad.  
Mines of the Erie Railroad.  
Delaware, Lackawanna and Western.  
Delaware and Hudson Canal Co.

## CLOSE FIGHT PROMISED OVER STATEHOOD BILL

Those Who Would Increase Number of Old Glory's Stars  
Grow Confident.

While there may be more important episodes in national lawmaking at this session of Congress, there will be none more interesting than the Territorial fight for Statehood. The advocates of the proposition to add three stars to the American flag do not seem to have lost either courage or vitality, and, with an alliance of Eastern statesmen like Senators Quay and Elkins, they promise at least to come near the mark of success in their ambition to create new States.

When the omnibus Statehood bill is taken up by the Senate on December 11, the lines will have been even more closely drawn than at present, and the affirmative side will be ready for vigorous fray.

Senator Elkins is said to be one of the unwavering and quiet champions of the bill which proposes the admission of Oklahoma, Arizona, New Mexico, and Indian Territory into the Union. Like the people of the West who have devoted and are devoting heart and soul to the general cause, he believes, it is said, in the omnibus proposition. As it is noticeable yesterday that the report of an amended measure in the form of a substitute bill, eliminating Arizona and New Mexico from the Statehood

plan was accepted by the friends of Western progress only as another evidence of weakening opposition.

Senator Elkins' exhibition of power at the last session of Congress, when the reciprocity measure was at issue and in conflict with beet sugar interests, commanded a deal of attention and resulted in a lasting respect. Therefore, his alignment with the supporters of the Statehood measure means an acquisition to be feared by its opponents, especially in company with that of Senator Quay.

It was said at the Capitol today and by one who has closely followed the trend of the Statehood battle that the leading advocates of the omnibus measure feel absolutely confident of success.

While they are not willing to make a forecast of the Senate vote by individuals, they are free in asserting that the substitute, giving only Oklahoma and Indian Territory the dignity of Statehood, will not become a law, and the general measure will receive the approbation of both branches of Congress.

They predict that in the Senate the bill will have from fifty to fifty-three votes, and are inclined to believe that the latter figure is correct.

## ARMY PROMOTION ACT CONSTRUED BY ROOT

Law Intended to Benefit Enlisted Men.

The Secretary of War has rendered a decision which will have a far-reaching effect upon the appointment of enlisted men as second lieutenants.

The Secretary holds that it was not the intent of Congress to include attendance as a cadet at the United States Military Academy as any part of the two years' service which is necessary to entitle an enlisted man to compete for promotion. He is of the opinion that the act of July 30, 1892, in providing that soldiers who have served honorably not less than two years in the army may compete for promotion refers to the enlisted service only.

The law was designed to benefit the enlisted men of the army. Secretary Root says, and not the young men who for any cause have been dropped from their West Point classes before the end of the course.

## QUARELL OVER WOMAN MAY END FATALLY

Albert Tripp Receives Probably Mortal Wound in Shooting Affray.

PORTLAND, Me., Dec. 4.—A probably fatal shooting affray occurred Tuesday night at the home of Humphrey May, a farmer, in the little settlement of West Gloucester, about thirty miles from this city.

The victim was Albert Tripp, who received a pistol ball in the abdomen from a weapon fired by Edward D. Wing. Both are young men and the trouble is said to have arisen over a woman.

Wing escaped and a posse is in pursuit of him.

## EDICT OF PRESIDENT AGAINST FRENCH BISHOPS

Decree Declares They Abused Rights in Petition to Legislators.

PARIS, Dec. 4.—The President in a decree issued today declares that the recent petition of the French bishops to members of the legislature, in which the law of associations was discussed at length and return to the principles of the concordat advised, constituted an abuse of their rights.

It is reported that Prime Minister Combes will suspend the stipends of the Archbishop of Besancon and the Bishops of Nice, Amiens and Orleans.

## COMMISSIONERS OPPOSE CHANGE IN CONDUIT LAW

Make Adverse Report on Senate Resolution No. 81.

The District Commissioners today forwarded to Representative J. W. Babcock, chairman of the House District Committee, an adverse report on Senate Resolution No. 81, entitled "Joint Resolution to Enlarge the use of Electric Conduits in the District of Columbia."

The resolution provides that the Commissioners be authorized to grant permission to electric lighting companies to make connections between their conduits and those of existing street railway companies for the purpose of furnishing current through such conduits for public and private uses.

The Commissioners say that they still adhere to the views expressed in their report of last May on the proposed measure. That report suggested several verbal amendments to the resolution.

## NO BARGAIN MADE BY ENGLAND WITH FRANCE

Newfoundland and New Hebrides Claim Not to Be Exchanged for Morocco Concessions.

LONDON, Dec. 4.—Lord Cranborne, Parliamentary secretary to the foreign office, replying to a parliamentary question yesterday, said there is no truth in the report that Newfoundland and other outstanding questions between France and England have been settled by mutual concessions.

The report that a rapprochement had been arranged between England and France was published a week ago. According to the report France agreed to relinquish all claims in Newfoundland and the New Hebrides, and to further the settlement of Anglo-Russian difficulties, with the understanding that England would allow her a free hand in Morocco and Ceuta.

## SAGASTA AGAIN RESIGNS AS PREMIER

Declares to the King That His Decision Is Irrevocable.

MADRID, Dec. 4.—Premier Sagasta today handed his resignation to King Alfonso. The retiring premier stated that his decision to relinquish his portfolio was irrevocable.

No reason for the resignation has been made public, but it is stated on semi-official authority that it is a result of the motion of censure against the minister of marine passed in the chamber of deputies yesterday.

### Reading Railroad Officials Tell Washington Commit- tee of Business Men That Law of Supply and De- mand Is Not Exercised.

Promises Obtained That  
Every Point Will Be  
Strained to Relieve Whole  
Situation and Aid People  
of the National Capital.

Demand for Anthracite by  
Transportation Companies  
Unprecedented—Railroads  
Unable to Secure Bitumin-  
ous Product to Move Traffic

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 4.—In promising Thomas W. Smith and the members of the Washington coal committee a greater supply of coal from now on the Reading officials said that the mining and distribution of coal had ceased to be a matter of business purely and was being dealt with according to the dictates of humanity.

"We are straining every effort to relieve the situation and could do no more if we were receiving twice the price we are asking for our product. If we were controlled in quoting prices by the law of supply and demand there is no telling where the price of coal would soar."

"Washington has been receiving something less than full quota of coal because of the scarcity of cars, but from now on we will ship at least fifty cars of coal to the nation's Capital daily. We will also make up the amount that we should have received in the past and increase shipments as rapidly as possible. The normal shipment to Washington is seventy-five cars a day. It will be three months before we reach that mark, and coal will be scarce all winter."

"I was informed this morning by our first vice president that, owing to the shortage of bituminous coal he would be compelled to seize that consigned to other parties to keep the traffic moving unless we supplied him with the coal he needed."

### Shown Every Courtesy.

This, in brief, is the statement made yesterday to the members of the Washington committee composed of Thomas W. Smith, William F. Gude, and Wilton J. Lambert, by C. E. Henderson, second vice president of the Reading Railroad and general manager of the Reading Coal and Iron Company. Mr. Henderson extended every consideration to the visitors, but said he was daily receiving delegations from all of the big cities, each of which is in equally as bad condition as Washington.

The committee arrived from Washington at 11:30 o'clock and went at once to the offices of L. V. Ryder, sales agent of the Lehigh Valley Coal Company, who was awaiting them by appointment. Mr. Ryder said his company had not been sending any great amount of coal to Washington for three years. Shipments were suspended because of the difficulty experienced in having cars promptly returned. Supplying only their own points they were able to carry twice the product from the mines they would be able to if they permitted their cars to go to points on foreign lines.

In consideration of the fact that they had not been shipping to Washington for several years they did not think they could resume shipments while the demand on their own lines exceeded their output. This demand cannot be met this winter and there would necessarily be much suffering.

The committee visited C. C. Coughlin, city and Southern sales agent of the Reading Coal and Iron Company, whose office is in the Reading Terminal. Mr. Coughlin escorted them to the office of Mr. Henderson, who received them in the board room. The conference lasted an hour and a half.

### Conditions Alarming.

Thomas W. Smith, acting as spokesman for the committee, introduced the subject by describing the alarming condition of affairs in Washington. He told of the 50,000 homes with their 70,000 families whose suffering would be intense unless a vast amount of coal was received between now and Christmas.

"If there is anything the citizens can do, if there is anything that money can do to relieve the situation, we stand ready to do it," Mr. Smith said.

"It is not a question of price; it is a matter solely of securing coal." "In this connection," Mr. Smith continued, "we wish to state that we and our citizens, deeply feel the kindly sentiments expressed by Mr. Baer of Washington, and to extend to him our thanks for the consideration he has shown us and for his endeavor to prevent an excessive selling price for coal."

In reply Mr. Henderson said: "A thoroughly appreciate the situation in which you and the people of Washington find yourselves. The statements that you have made are not new to me. Every day we are in receipt of letters from the Washington dealers couched in equally strong terms. There is no difficulty as to money. If we had the coal we would ship it. Your dealers would